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both forceful and timely. That the mere passage of reform legislation is not a panacea for municipal ills is an idea which the public has seemed incapable of grasping but which the author has argued consistently and effectively. Finally, without minimizing the importance of local problems, he takes the sound position that such problems are ultimately based upon fundamental, social, and economic evils which only the state and nation can successfully assail. Among these evils are long hours, low wages, and extensive periods of unemployment. "A great deal can be done by the city to make the living and working conditions within its borders better, but when the city has done its utmost, many of the fundamental evils will remain untouched at the real source" (p. 386).

A few inaccuracies have crept into the work, as where the statement is made that a state legislature may at any time seize a municipal water plant and "transfer it to a private corporation on such terms as it may choose to provide" (p. 36). It would be quite difficult to find any legal authority for so startling a proposition. On the whole, however, the book is generally free from the inaccuracies, the superficiality, and the bias that too frequently characterize popular treatises of like nature, and it will undoubtedly fill a distinctive need. The usefulness of the volume is enhanced by an excellent index. The appendices contain an outline of sections for a model street railroad franchise, the recommendations of the New York City Commission on Congestion, and a select, classified bibliography.

ARNOLD B. HALL

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

The Quest of the Best: Insights into Ethics for Parents, Teachers, and Leaders of Boys. By WILLIAM DEWITT HYDE. New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1913. Pp. vi+267. \$1.00 net.

According to the author, boys are *by nature* slovenly, gluttonous, mischievous, lazy, prodigal, cowardly, untruthful, thieving, tardy, disorderly, vulgar, awkward, contentious, treacherous, conceited, licentious, vindictive, and murderous. The aim of the book is to show the element of good which these vices may indicate, the inefficiency of goodness by constraint and the efficiency of personal friendship and example in building up an inner control and the quest of what is best in the light of one's own largest good and the equal good of others and of all.

One may take exception to the general indictment if it is made to carry more than the fact that adjustments to the social order are necessarily faulty in the immature by virtue of inexperience, poor example,

and defective nurture. Probably an equally good case can be made out for the exact opposites of these vices, and possibly the fact is that, with the vast majority of boys, moral adjustments are made according to the moral efficiency and practices of the enveloping group. If so, what is called badness or goodness *by nature* loses practically all of its individual moral color, the remaining pigment being due to heredity in the form of a sound or damaged nervous system.

In addition to the sane and reflective treatment of the specific ethical problems of boy-life, the author adds a chapter on "The Birth-right of the Child," in which he treats very briefly such subjects as child-labor, industrial education, vocational guidance, the playground movement, the juvenile court, and clubs and associations. The quotation on page 251 is probably from Judge Julian W. Mack, William being a misprint. As is indicated in the subtitle and introduction, the book is not intended for boys, but for those responsible for their training. The adult reader, however, may not enjoy the repetition which seems rather suited to less mature minds.

ALLAN HOBEN

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Le syndicalisme et la prochaine révolution. By DUFOUR, Former Professor of Political Economy.

Within its professed limits this work is an excellent presentation of the position of the French Syndicalists. It should take equal rank with Paul Louis' *Le syndicalisme contre l'état*. These limits are that it deals with France only, and that it presents the arguments of the movement in an abstract and logical form without undertaking in any degree to describe the movement itself. It describes, not the world-wide movement loosely called Syndicalism, but the doctrine of the French school, which the author regards as "perfectly coherent, perfectly demonstrable, and perfectly demonstrated."

A large part of the work consists in the usual Syndicalist reaffirmation of ultra orthodox Marxism. The middle class is absolutely of no consequence (p. 58). The liberal professions are all bitter enemies of syndicalism (p. 180). Labor is absolutely one and indivisible, and every strike is a class-struggle (p. 181). The submission of present governments to financial oligarchies is a permanent feature of every political government (p. 184). Syndicalism will force the small agriculturists to abandon their farms (p. 436).

The expropriation of the middle class and the increase of the misery